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THE PROMENADE

PROMENADE SYMPHONY CONCERTS

TAUNO HANNIKAINEN

Guest Conductor

★

DR. LESLIE BELL

Director

THE LESLIE BELL SINGERS

★

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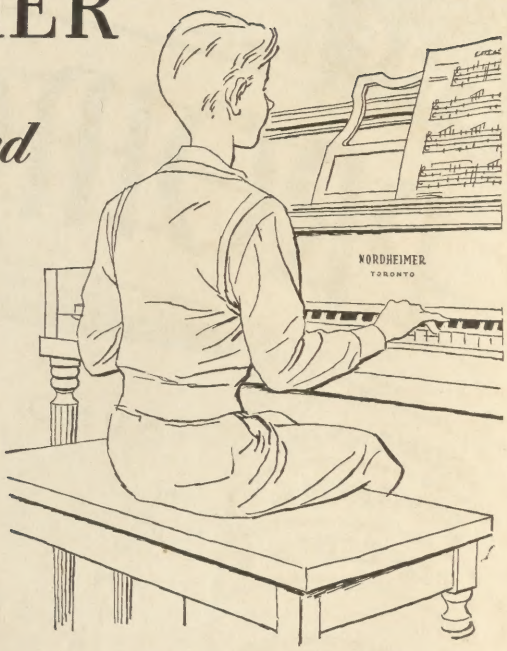
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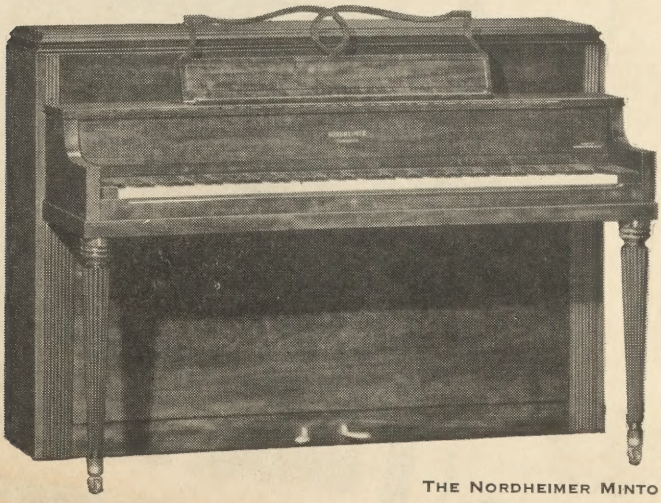

THE NORDHEIMER MINTO

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Tauno Hannikainen to Conduct Next Thursday
Lovely Canadian Pianist, Mary Syme as Soloist

Tonight's conductor, who is to conduct next Thursday, has conducted most of the leading orchestras of the world. He is the conductor of the Helsinki Symphony Orchestra and makes frequent visits to this continent as guest conductor. His first visit to the United States was in 1938 when he conducted a special concert celebrating the 300th anniversary of the arrival in Delaware of the first Finnish and Swedish settlers in America. During that visit he conducted the Boston Symphony and so great was his reception that he was engaged to return as guest conductor, not only of the Boston orchestra but also the orchestras of Philadelphia, Detroit, Buffalo, Minneapolis, Houston, Washington, Chicago. His name is well known throughout Scandinavia and in Europe.

Mary Syme, next week's soloist, is one of Canada's best known pianists. She made her New York Town Hall debut about ten years ago, winning high praise for her outstanding performance. She has appeared as soloist on several occasions with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, the Chicago Symphony and other leading Canadian and United States orchestras. During the past two seasons she has played more than one hundred engagements in Canada, the United States and in Europe. She has been heard by radio audiences over the CBC networks, on her own radio show from Hamilton, BBC, Radio Diffusion Francais and All Italy Radio as well as BBC Television. During her European tour Mary Syme found time to write a series of weekly articles for a Canadian newspaper and gave weekly short-wave talks to Canada. Next Thursday she will play a Chopin group, and the first movement of the Schumann A minor piano concerto.

These concerts are made possible through the courtesy of the Board of Governors of the University of Toronto and the University of Toronto Athletic Association who make this building available to the Promenade Symphony Concerts at a reduced rental fee.

THE PROMENADE

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Promenade Symphony Concerts Programme
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TONIGHT'S PROGRAMME

TAUNO HANNIKAINEN
Guest Conductor

THE LESLIE BELL SINGERS

God Save the Queen

I. Toccato and Fugue, D Minor - Bach

Bach (1685-1750) has been described by Wagner as "the most stupendous miracle in all music." The Toccata and Fugue in D Minor affords one illustration of the kind of music that inspired this tribute from one who himself had musical vision on the grand scale. Even the opening bars will tell you that it is not a serenade to a girl in a pink hat, or a musical setting to a sonnet on a daisy. Here we have the multitudinous seas, the thunderous artillery of the heavens, an avalanche of the irrestible. Like the etudes of Chopin, the Toccata was written as an exercise, in this case for speed, but like the etudes also, Bach's Toccatas have achieved a place in music independent of the purpose which prompted their composition, and this one notably attains the utmost climax in dramatic power.

II. Serenade for String Orchestra, C Major - - - - Tchaikovsky
Elgie-Waltz

This is an attractive work in four movements, sonatina, waltz, elegie, and finale on a Russian theme. Unfortunately time is lacking for presentation of the whole work, but it is an excellent introduction to Tchaikovsky, being, like the composer himself, a Jekyll and Hyde sort of affair, part melancholy and part gay and uninhibited.

III. GROUP OF SONGS (a capella):
(1) Battle Hymn of the Republic
Howe

A product of the American Civil War, this is possibly the best song of its kind born in the United States. The reason for its inclusion on this programme is that it has become universal, and now belongs to the world. Actually there is no reference in its verses to the United States.

(2) Our Father Which Art in Heaven - - Tchaikovsky

This setting of the Lord's Prayer is very typical of Tchaikovsky and very typical of Russian music. It has a wide range of choral dynamics and exhibits orthodox Russian harmonies. The last part of the prayer is omitted as in some churches. It was designed for unaccompanied singing.

Ladies' Rest Room will be found inside the Arena at the south-west corner.

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(3) Sometime I Feel Like a Motherless Child - Spiritual

(4) Didn't My Lord Deliver Daniel Spiritual

These two form an effective contrast. Religious emotions lead in two directions. An unhappy situation on earth is reflected in the brooding melancholy of the first example. An optimistic outlook on a future life where things will be better is the occasion for the more hysterical, baptismal or shouting spiritual of which the second is a sample.

BELL SINGERS

INTERMISSION

(This portion of the programme is broadcast on the CBC Dominion Network)

IV. GROUP OF SONGS (a capella):

(1) Alleluia - - - - - Mozart

This beautiful and well-known song is here presented in an unusual form. Instead of being sung as a solo, the whole choir renders it, generally in thirds. The character of the music makes the long passages by massed voices a severe test of choral training.

(2) Beau Soir - - - - Debussy

This is one of the greatest songs by the composer. The sentiment is comprehended in the following creed: "Let us enjoy life while we are young, for we travel on a river out to the sea, where we disappear we know not where."

(3) They Call the Wind Maria Arr. Bell

(Soloist: Joyce Sullivan)

This is a new song with a vivid colorful arrangement. Note the wind effect in the choral setting obtained by the use of dissonant chromatic harmonies against the solo voice.

(4) Rhapsody of Gershwin Songs Bell

The medley consists of excerpts from the composer's greatest songs and orchestral works. He is considered the most American of all United States composers, and the selection is calculated to show his genius in that capacity.

BELL SINGERS

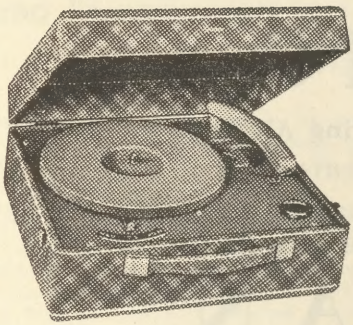
V. Symphony No. 1—Opus 39, E Minor Sibelius

Musicians often consider the first symphony as unworthy of the composer's later works in this form, but the public can find melody and brilliant orchestration in it, enough to make it a respected member of symphonic repertoires. Musicians affect to see traces of Borodin, Grieg, Dvorak and Tchaikovsky in evidence. Our audience might be better employed in finding the roar of elements, the shock of battle, dramatic climaxes, revolutions and sections which might be called descriptive tone poems. For a popular concert, Mr. Hannikainen has probably chosen the best of the Sibelius symphonies.

Sibelius is a very scholarly man, with a passion for the classic tongues, a deep interest in astronomy, and a thorough command of senior mathematics. His main instruments as a musician are the piano and the violin. He was born in 1865.

Heintzman Piano

The Promenade Committee invite your frank comment on the numbers selected for its Thursday concerts. Some years ago we appealed to our public by questionnaire but received only a very few responses. Your wishes will receive serious consideration. It is hoped that the policy of using Canadian talent will meet with the endorsement of our audiences.



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BOX OFFICE INFORMATION

Prices: Reserved $1.00 and 75c; General Admission 50c. (No Tax)

Tickets for next week's concert may be purchased daily at Heintzman's and Moodey's from **10 a.m. to 4.30 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 12.30.** They may also be purchased at the Varsity Arena, Box Office, but on **Thursdays only, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.** (Door sale opens at 7.30 p.m.)

Mail orders for future concerts, when accompanied by remittance and **stamped self-addressed envelope** for return of tickets, will be accepted, by mail only. Out-of-town cheques must include full bank exchange charges. Make remittances payable to **"Promenade Symphony Concerts"** and address as follows:

Promenade Symphony Concerts,
Prom Box Office,
c/o Heintzman & Co.,
195 Yonge St., Toronto.

For further information, phone the Box Office—**EM. 6-2884.**

LOOKING AHEAD

July 3—Tauno Hannikainen ....Conductor
Mary Syme.....Pianist

July 10—Guy Fraser Harrison...Conductor
Alan and Blanche Lund...Dancers
The Commodors.

July 17—Guy Fraser Harrison...Conductor
Toronto Theatre Ballet.

July 24—Walter Hendl.....Conductor
Mildred Wickson Ballet.

NEXT WEEK'S PROGRAMME

TAUNO HANNIKAINEN
Guest Conductor

MARY SYME, Guest Artist

I. Concerto Grosso, D minor - Hande

II. Piano Solos:
Tarentelle - - - - - - Chopin
E Major Etude - - - - - Chopin
Aragon - - - - - - - Longas
MARY SYME

INTERMISSION

III. Piano Concerto in A Minor Schumann
(1st Movement)
MARY SYME

IV. Symphony No. 5, Op. 64 in E minor Tchaikovsky

Promenade Symphony Concerts

Varsity Arena, Thurs. 8.30. Doors open 7.30
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Committee.....Brian S. McCool
Roy Locksley
Publicity.....Harry Warlow
Tickets.....Miss Mary Tench

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